

ANDRÉ CARSON  
7TH DISTRICT, INDIANA

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Congress of the United States  
House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20515-1407

DC OFFICE  
2135 RAYBURN HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING  
WASHINGTON, DC 20515-1407  
(202) 225-4011

DISTRICT OFFICE  
300 E FALL CREEK PKWY N DR. #300  
INDIANAPOLIS, IN 46205  
(317) 283-6516

SENIOR WHIP

March 29, 2023

Chair Kay Granger and Ranking Member Rosa DeLauro:  
House Committee on Appropriations  
US House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chair Granger and Ranking Member DeLauro:

I am requesting funding in the amount of \$2,746,165 to the City of Indianapolis Mars Hill Flood Control Improvement District project in fiscal year 2024.

The entity to receive funding for this project is the City of Indianapolis located at 200 East Washington Street, Indianapolis, Indiana 46204.

The funding will be used for the Mars Hill Flood Control Improvement District (FCID) Project will provide relief to families in the Mars Hill neighborhood who currently experience flooding from State Ditch waterway. The project will use nature-based interventions to remove approximately 500 parcels from the Special Flood Hazard Area of the State Ditch. The project is focused on greening and stream naturalization of the State Ditch waterway by converting State Ditch between the Sam Jones Expressway and West Troy Avenue to a two-stage, nature-based channel.

This project would be valuable to taxpayers as it will allow the City of Indianapolis to reduce flood hazard areas and save taxpayers insurance costs using pre-disaster mitigation strategies in a manner consistent with the Pre-Disaster Mitigation Grant Program authorized by Congress. Reducing the Special Flood Hazard Area (SFHA) will reduce flood insurance costs for property owners in the neighborhood and allow them to invest their hard-earned money on other priorities, which can increase economic development for the area. The reduction in the size of the SFHA will also allow property owners to invest more in their properties as building restrictions will be removed. Finally, in terms of safety and prevention of loss of lives, residents of the neighborhood will sleep easier at night during rain events knowing the infrastructure in their neighborhood is better equipped to handle the rain and less likely to flood their homes.

The project has a Federal nexus because the funding provided is for purposes authorized by section 203 of the Stafford Act (42 U.S.C. 5133), as amended by Section 1234, National Public Infrastructure Pre-Disaster Hazard Mitigation (PDM), of the Disaster Recovery Reform Act (DRRA) of 2018.

The project would align with Sub-Objective 5.1.1 in the most recent NOFO: Incentivize investments that reduce risk and increase pre-disaster mitigation, including expanding the use of insurance to manage risk through funding mitigation projects, particularly ones that reduce risk to Community Lifelines and infrastructure. Additionally, project scoping activities that PDM funds also contribute to other sub-objectives. For example, planning, partnerships, and project scoping efforts help improve awareness initiatives to encourage public action to increase preparedness

I certify that neither I nor my immediate family has any financial interest in this project.

Sincerely,



André Carson  
Member of Congress